

REMARKS

The Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences affirmed the rejection(s) against claim(s) 1, 2, 5-9 and 14-18, but reversed all rejections against claim(s) 3, 4 and 10-13 dependent thereon.

For the reasons set forth above, in the decision by the Board, and previously, Applicants contend that the claims as amended are patentably distinct over the cited art, whether such art be considered individually or in combination.

Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

/Richard B. O'Planick/

Richard B. O'Planick – Reg. No. 29,096

Attorney for Applicants

The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company
Department 823
1144 East Market Street
Akron, Ohio 44316-0001
Telephone: (330) 796-5240
Facsimile: (330) 796-9018